

CLAIMS

cm What is claimed is:

1. In a fishing reel having a main gear with key slots therein and a shaft and a drag mechanism using a stack of washers, an improved drag stack comprising a plurality of washers at least one of which being made of a friction imparting material having a high co-efficient of friction and ears extending from the periphery thereof for engagement with said key slots in said main gear; and at least one of which washers comprises a metallic washer in keyed engagement with said shaft passing through said gear, for engagement with said friction imparting material washer to provide drag.

2. The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein at least two friction washers alternate with metal washers.

3. The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein at least three friction washers alternate with metal washers.

4. The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein the friction imparting material comprises a composite material having a center laminated portion comprised of fiberglass with a binder resin such as epoxy and outer laminated graphite portions forming the entire radial friction surfaces; said fiber composite material being three layers of epoxy impregnated glass fibers, which are sandwiched between layers of woven graphite cloth; compressed and cured to produce a drag material.

~~1. 8.~~ The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein the metal drag washers are stainless steel.

~~8. 6.~~ The fishing reel of Claim ~~8~~ <sup>7</sup> wherein the stainless steel washers have a diameter of approximately 1.120 inches, and a width of approximately 0.045 inches.

~~9. 7.~~ The invention of Claim ~~8~~ <sup>7</sup> wherein the stainless steel washers have a diameter of approximately 1.120 inches, and a width of approximately 0.055 inches.

5 8. The fishing reel of Claim 4 wherein the friction imparting material washers have a radius of approximately 0.570 inches and a width of approximately 0.050 inches.

*(e.g.)* The fishing reel of Claim 4 wherein the friction imparting material washers have ears at approximately 60 degree intervals.

- 5        10. The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein the friction material has a co-efficient of friction  
of approximately 0.14.

11. The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein the fishing reel is a conventional rotating spool  
reel.

12. The fishing reel of Claim 1 wherein the fishing reel is a spinning fixed reel.